JUDGMENT AT NUREMBERG

By Rev. Richard Ginder Republished from — Sunday Visitor

It was three years ago that I first noticed an anti-German campaign in certain of the elements that influence American public opinion. V. S. Pritchett wrote up Germany in a most unfriendly manner for Holiday and I remarked on it in Our SUNDAY VISITOR, May 17, 1959. He referred for instance to the "pig-face" of the Germans and rehearsed the business of the gas chambers at Dachau.

But since then the campaign against Germany has mounted in fury until now one would be tempted to think that the chief enemy to world peace is not the Bomb but the German people.

What is behind this? The answer is that whereas Poland used to be our first line of defense against Bolshevism, the barricade has been moved westward until it consists now, literally, of a wall across the face of Berlin. Before Russia can move another inch in the West, she must somehow neutralize West Germany, for Germany blocks her path with a formidable army and air force, and she keeps getting stronger every day.

This strategem of Russia's could perhaps be accompanied by undermining American support of Germany, by teaching us to hate German people so that we would withdraw our forces and let NATO wither on the vine, in which case Germany would be "easy pickings." Or, if the Americans could be taught to hate Germany, she might from a sense of grievance withdraw voluntarily from NATO and conclude a separate pact with Russia, as happened at Rapallo in 1922.

LESSON IN HATRED

How teach Americans to hate the Germans? As it is working out, the outrages perpetrated 20 years ago by Hitler and his henchmen are being rehashed and restaged again and again before the eyes of the American people almost to the point of tedium. The viewer is naturally tempted by the fallacy of projecting that image on the new generation of Germans that has grown up since the war.

It is as preposterous as though, as late as 1885, a little clique of conspirators had kept presenting the atrocities of Anderson-ville and other Confederate prison camps before the people of the North, fighting the Civil War again and again in its most odious phases, keeping old wounds suppurating, until the people of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania were inflamed to the point of massacre against the people of Georgia and North Carolina — all because of what had happened in a previous generation.

Last week I went to see Stanley Kramer's "Judgment at Nuremberg." Mr. Kramer loves to fish in troubled waters.

Kramer's "Inherit the Wind," according to William H. Mooring, "twisted agnosticism into equations of intellectual freedom." His "On the Beach" was a subtle plea for unilateral nuclear disarmament.

A TIRESOME BORE

In a way, it may be a good thing to have Kramer working against us, because I for one find his productions such a bore I walked out of "On the Beach" after half an hour. But I drove myself to sit through all 190 minutes of "Judgment at Nuremberg" so that I could give you a report on it.

I used to rub my legs to get the circulation going again at the end of each hour. And while they ran those faded old shots from concentration camps — you know: the hollow-eyed starvelings and the gas ovens that we have seen so often on TV and in the movies — I stepped out into the lobby for a cigarette. But when I got back

I found that my companion had dozed off again. It's that kind of a picture — like an essay on social problems.

I groaned mentally when I saw Spencer Tracy wind up for his charge to the court — a preachment that lasted about eight minutes, about the length of a Sunday sermon. But Richard Widmark preached, too, and Maximilian Schell — loudly and interminably.

Kramer has a way of circling the speaker with his camera. Around and around we go. You can imagine how many rounds he manages to get in during an eight-minute spiel. It made me physically dizzy.

Actually, the whole business of Nuremberg was a mistake. Civilized peoples just don't kill off their prisoners of war, for one thing. And then it canonized the Reds, letting them sit, hands dripping blood, on the bench beside the rest of the Allies. Indeed, all through the film, one kept thinking: Now, the Nazis were all killed off 17 years ago and the present day Germans, have not only repudiated their enormities but are paying huge sums in restitution to Hitler's victims. This is ancient history — whereas, behind the Iron Curtain, it is still going on.

Every German in the picture, from the very first shot, is studiously chosen and presented in an unkind way. In fact, Kramer overdoes it to the point of absurdity. Every German without exception is stiff, or obsequious, or just a little too loud. Even Marlene Dietrich, surprisingly, consented to struggle with a script that belittles her own people and shows her unsympathically.

Maximilian Shell, as the defense attorney, sets the theme of the picture when, pointing to the shifty-eyed Nazi rascals in the dock, he says: "These are not the ones on trial. It is the whole German nation!" — thereby wiping out all thought of the heroic resistance to Hitler recalled by such names as Cardinal Faulhaber and Count Klaus von Stauffenberg.

A court trial can be made into a fascinating picture. One thinks of "Witness for the Prosecution." But Stanley Kramer has not done it here. His "Judgement at Nuremberg" is an excruciating bore.

"As for anyone who does not know that the present revolutionary Bolshevist movement is Jewish. I can only say that he must be a man who is taken in by the suppressions of our deplorable press."

-Hilaire Belloc, Author - poet.

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OPEN LETTER TO THE TAXPAYERS OF THE UNITED STATES

As you labor over the questionnaire contained in the "free" booklet you recently received from your government—the booklet issued by the Gestapo they have the gall to call the Internal Revenue SERVICE, keep the following in mind:

The same addle-brained Socialists that are now asking for more than 4 billion dollars of your hard earned money for foreign aid, which will undoubtedly be used for such worthwhile enterprises as supplying Yugoslavia with "obsolete" planes at thousands of dollars loss (of course it's not really loss-it's only your money) and training the pilots so they will know how to use those planes in war that would kill you and your family, in the same breath are asking that we DIS-arm. This has something to do with demonstrating our sincerity. Unilateral disarmament, they call it. The Communists, on the other hand, are completely trustworthy. They demonstrate their good intentions by taking under their loving wing 900 million slaves!!!

Keep in mind that after millions upon millions of your tax dollars were spent to get our man into space, our ambassador to the United Nations, egg-head Adlai, thinks we should team up with the Russians and pool our KNOWLEDGE with their PROPA-GANDA! Remember, while our President would lower the tariff walls that protect your job, he would give you "free" medicare when you grow old and unable to assume these personal responsibilities because socialists in our government have pre-empted the money that you could have saved for that rainy day, and piddled it away on such scatter-brained schemes as the purchase of 100 million dollars worth of United Nations

Keep in mind that while our One-Worlders liquidate nasty dictators like Chaing-Kai-Shek, Trujillo and Batista—while sponsoring such lovable characters as "Robin of Sherwood" Castro and "Farmer Boy" Mao Tse-Tung — share our atomic secrets with the Soviet Union and arm our enemies to the teeth, our State Department issues a booklet (and our President delivers speeches) disclosing plans for, of all things, turning our Army, our Navy and our Air Force over to that Pillar of Justice — the Keeper of the Peace — the RAPIST of Katanga—the Communist-controlled United Nations.

This tax-sponsored madness originates in the extreme left-wing, ADA-controlled administration and is labelled by our noble press as the NEW FRONTIER. However, we are sternly warned against the danger of such radical right-wing extremism as advocacy of Constitutional Government.

Barnum was right — there IS a sucker born every minute!

Harlan Rupp, Jr. March 15th, 1962 Hamburg, New York

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National Defense Committee
Daughters of The American Revolution